

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Masatoshi Homan, et al.

Examiner:

Philip Robert Smith

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND SPECIES ELECTION

Sir:

Pursuant to the restriction requirement and species election imposed in the Official Action dated August 15, 2005, Applicants elect the claims of Group I (claims 1-29) and Species (2), i.e., Claims 3, 6, 7, 15, and 16, along with generic claims 1, 12, 13, and 21-25 for continued prosecution herein.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 17, 2005.

Dated: October 17, 2005

Thomas Spinelli